UNFINISHED BUSINESS
PART I
2 Kings 8

MAIN THOUGHT Elisha completes some unfinished business with the Shunammite widow (8:1-6), Hazael (7:7-15), and Jehu (9:1-37). Elijah only completed one of the three tasks God had given him (1 Kings 19:15-16). Elisha would now complete the rest.

The Shunammite Widow (8:1-6).
- But first, in a flashback (non-leprous Gahazi), it is revealed how God redressed injustice done to the wealthy Shunammite widow and her son (Jam. 1:27).
- Elisha had advised her to flee Israel and the famine (Psa. 105:16).
- She returned only to find her property had been seized by an unfaithful servant (Prov. 25:19; Matt. 25:14).
- She came to beg the king exactly when Gahazi was telling him how Elisha had raised her son from the dead – PROVIDENTIAL timing (Gal. 4:4).
- The King restored her property – justice was done (Psa. 9:16; Prov. 31:9).

Hazael (8:7-15).
- Perhaps it was Elisha’s good will (healing Namaan – 5:15; sparing the lives of their army – 6:22) with the Aramaens that he traveled to Damascus.
- The Aramaen King Ben-Hadad II was wiser than King Ahaziah of Israel (1:2) for he sought to consult the “man of God” Elisha about his illness though he had regularly bowed down to his god Rimmon (5:18).
- Ben-Hadad II sent Hazael with elaborate gifts to Elisha to inquire of his fate for he felt unworthy to have the prophet in his presence.
- Hazael was told to call his king “Elisha’s son” out of flattery or respect.
- He was told the king would recover but also he would die (by other means?).
- Elisha knowingly STARED DOWN Hazael making him blush with guilt.
- Elisha began to weep for he knew when Hazael became king of Aram he would be used by God to punish the Israelites (9:14-15; 10:32; 12:17; 13:3, 22).
- In feigned shock, Hazael harshly (a mere dog) condemned his future actions. He condemned sin yet would participate in it – HYPOCRISY (Rom. 1:32).
- He had a very high opinion of himself yet would fail (Matt. 26:35; 1 Cor. 10:12).
- Hazael reported to his master the words of the prophet only to return the following day and murder the king to make it look non-violent.

King Jehoram of Judah (8:16-24).
- He did evil and married Ahab’s daughter Athaliah – a little Jezebel.
- But God was patient maintaining a lamp for David forever (2 Sam. 7:16).

King Ahaziah of Judah (8:25-29).
- Son of wicked Athaliah; reigned one year; wounded in battle.